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AN

ODE

TO THE

EARL OF CH——M.

By the AUTHOR of the

E—L of CH——M's APOLOGY.

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The MUSE To

LORD C——M.

An ODE.

FORGIVE, my Lord, an homely Muſe,
Too plain by Flatt'ry to amuſe,
Too free to hope or fear;
I come not with obſequ'ous bow,
To ſooth, proteſt, recant, or vow,
Like temporiſing Cl—re.

Nor meek and trembling with deſpair,
To drop a penitential tear,
And ſue to be forgiv'n;
Unfit to ſneak about a Court,
I live, where Freedom's Sons reſort,
Beneath an humbler heav'n.

Friend to the Law, the Church, and King,
As numbers flow, I boldly ſing,
And praiſe where praiſe is due:
When laws enſlave, I blot the plan,
When *Spendthrift's Guide*, I brand the man,
Tho' great, or proud as You;

There was a time, I muſt be plain,
E're adulation turn'd your brain,
E're power unmaſk'd your pride;
When you, my Lord, diffuſed afar,
Your luſtre, like the northern ſtar,
Britannia's hope and guide.

But now theſe rays are over-caſt,
Your Sun has now his Zenith paſt,
Declining are your fires;
No more Britannia, meek and tame,
Like a fond miſtreſs fans your flame,
Nor courts your wild deſires.

Caſt-off, impoveriſh'd, undone,
She weeps, her health and fortune gone,
Whilſt your New Love rejoices;
But Her's is no uncommon ſtate,
'Tis but the juſt degree of Fate,
To dames who make ſuch choices.

America, her rival flame,
That rough, imperious, haughty dame,
As dark in heart as feature;
With your opinions to comply,
Forces all bonds of legal tie,
Of gratitude and nature.

Rais'd by the fondeſt mother's care,
She wounds that mother to deſpair,
Who gave her eaſe and wealth;
Tutor'd to ſerve your odious ends,
For you ſhe cheats her ſelf and friends,
With you intrigues by ſtealth.

Such is the nature of your ſex,
Regardleſs whom you pleaſe or vex,
You change from one to t'other;
'Tis luſtful paſſion tempts the man,
When daughters give up all they can,
Like you to quit the mother.

This may be folly deem'd in youth,
Ere conſtancy and ſocial truth,
Grow with the growth of time;
Yet ſure in life there is a ſtage,
When treachery's a ſtain to age,
When want of faith's a crime.

In vain again you meanly fly,
With golden promiſe, flatt'ring ſigh,
For refuge to her arms;
Wiſely ſhe ſhuns th' attractive flame,
That blaz'd but to undo her fame,
Her fortune, health and charms.

Britannia now has found a friend,
Active and *able* to defend,
Acceſſible and *true*;
On GRENVILLE ſhe has caſt her eye,
From him expects that rich ſupply
Of wealth, ſhe *loſt* by you.

From his abundant depth of mind,
Reſources flow of every kind,
To eaſe, correct, or heal;
Frugal of treaſures not his own;
He bribes no hungry courtier's frown,
He dread's no foe's appeal.

Averſe

Averſe to ſhed Britannia's blood,
His ruling paſſion's publick good,
His Liberty, her Law ;
Reviv'd by theſe ſalubrious pow'rs,
She'll reſt again on beds of flow'rs,
And ſtrength from plenty draw.

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